

Written Testimony regarding No-Excuse Absentee Voting Referendum

February 20, 2023

Dear Co-Chair Senator Flexer and Representative Blumenthal, Vice-Chairs Senator Slap and Representative Morrin-Bello, Ranking Members Senator Sampson and Representative Mastrofrancesco, and Distinguished Members of the GAE Committee,

I am writing today to urge you to pass legislation needed for a public referendum on No-Excuse Absentee Voting in 2024. Specifically, please support HJ1 and SJ 29).

Allowing for No-Excuse Absentee Voting is an integral part of an overall effort to make voting as easy and accessible as possible for all eligible voters.

We now have evidence that being able to vote by Absentee Ballot during the COVID pandemic significantly increased voter turnout. 35% of ballots cast in 2020 in Connecticut (over 650,000 voters) were by absentee with less than 1% being rejected – that's the lowest in recent history!

Please uphold our faith in the General Assembly to make voting as easy and accessible, and as safe and secure as possible by passing legislation now to allow for a ballot referendum on No-Excuse Absentee Voting in 2024.

Sincerely,

Alison V. Scherer
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